

Outlook

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FACULTY AND STAFF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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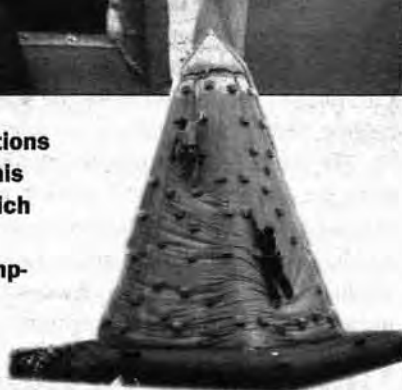


Explore Our World,
pages 4 & 5

Flipping for Art Attack



The campus went "Y2 Krazy" last Friday when SEE Productions hosted its annual Art Attack event. Held on McKeldin Mall, this year's Art Attack included the MTV Campus Invasion Tour which featured several specialty tents. By day, students had an opportunity to partake in activities like human velcro wall jumping, rock climbing and giant-glove boxing. In the evening the pop/rock band Sugar Ray performed in concert.



Will it Rain Today?

Meteorology Makes It Easier to Know When to Expect Heat, Rain or Snow

Will it rain (or snow or hail) or won't it? Not even a meteorologist can always predict for sure. But thanks to new "real-time," localized weather forecasts from the University of Maryland's department of meteorology <www.meto.umd.edu>, the science of predicting the weather in the Washington, D.C. area is becoming more precise.



Using computer models developed by its researchers, powerful, newly-purchased computer workstations, and weather data from the National Weather Service, the university's meteorology department has begun providing 36-hour weather forecasts that can predict more accurately what the weather will be for a specific area, or even neighborhood, in our region.

"We are very excited that we are able to provide the area, state and region with new, high-resolution weather forecasts that make it easier to predict things such as which parts of the region will get buffeted by spring thunderstorms or exactly when winter snowstorms will hit and how much snow will fall in different areas of the region," says Da-Lin Zhang, an associate professor of meteorology who heads the department's real-time weather forecasting project.

Project director Zhang says that the meteorology department will use the new forecasting ability to aid the Maryland Department of Transportation and to provide local TV stations with forecast data and tools for visually presenting the forecasts.



Continued on page 7

Facilitating Good Teamwork: CQI Provides Organizational Training

A facilitator's role on a team is that of a partner to the leader. With this in mind, the Office for Continuous Quality Improvement has been holding annual workshops for facilitator training. The most recent was in January this year.

The organizational skills of some talented members of the university community are further honed at these small, 8- to 10-member workshops that prepare them to facilitate future CQI teams.

"Part of our vision is to create a group of facilitators skilled in group dynamics, team effectiveness, CQI principles and techniques and meeting management who can use and share the knowledge on CQI teams, within their own departments and on campus," says Vicky Foxworth, organizational development specialist for CQI, who designed and led the two workshops held so far.

Since the first workshop, some facilitators have served successfully on

cross-functional CQI teams on safety and security, improving the experience of transfer students, parking for visitors and undergraduate advising, among other topics.

A good facilitator is a helper to the leader, says CQI director George Dieter. "Someone who can jump in and help out the team leader, advise them on how to approach a problem, and also be an impartial observer of what happens in the team."

A team facilitator is also expected to help guide the team to resolve disputes among team members and keep the team focused on the task at hand (see sidebar on page 3 for a "Role of a Team Facilitator" description).

By the end of the workshop, participants gained an opportunity to get an understanding of CQI and its functions, learn about the project-process cycle, learn and practice group problem-solving tools, and develop and practice skills necessary to be an effective team

facilitator. Participants are encouraged to apply these skills to a variety of professional and personal settings.

"On the first day of training, we give each participant a toolbox," says Dieter, holding up a big plastic box with a handle. It contains markers, post-it notes and other tools to get organized, along with some reading material on how to be a good facilitator. Books like "The Team Handbook" and "Faultless Facilitation: A Resource Guide for Group and Team Leaders," are also handed out.

To date, participants have been invited based on skills, invitations and word of mouth. "We selected people who had strong facilitator strengths and had expressed interest. Many of them had served earlier on CQI teams," Foxworth says.

Several participants hold high-level jobs on campus, but still found the time to participate. "It is amazing that such busy people devote so much time to

this. They make a huge commitment to campus," she says. Each participant agrees to facilitate a team in the next three years.

Terry Flannery, executive director of university communications and director of marketing, says she took up the invitation to participate in the CQI workshop this year because she "wanted to be a supporter of the quality and improvement process at the university."

Flannery, who had earlier served as a member on a CQI team on open communication, saw the workshop as an opportunity to develop her natural skills as a manager. But there were other rewards as well. "You learn to become a great observer and listener," she says. These skills, in turn, helped her on her job as well.

"I used the training in many ways—it helped me conceptualize what it takes to be a good meeting manager, remind-

Continued on page 3



"Officers need to realize that their best weapon for reducing crime is the mouth, not the pistol. In training police, the big challenge is to get officers who are oriented toward action to take the salesman approach." —*Lawrence Sherman, chair of criminal justice and criminology, in a Feb. 25 New York Times column by John Tierney about New York's need to shift gears from winning the war on crime to winning the peace in the streets.*

"The country had just gone through the Great Depression, when there was not much housing construction, so there was a tremendous housing shortage. Then you had the wartime industries switching to peacetime production. And you had all these people coming back from the war and anxious to get on with life, get back to normalcy, start families." —*Mary Corbin Sies, associate professor of American studies, in a Jan. 31 Philadelphia Inquirer story about the history and effects of suburbanization.*

"Blacks have always been conservative on issues, in part because they are the most heavily churchified community in the country. But those are social issues. For blacks, the larger question is: 'Do you want to change your position in society?'" —*Ron Walters, professor of African-American Studies, in a March 9 Christian Science Monitor story about Rep. J.C. Watts (R-Okla.) the Republican African American in Congress and the challenge of appealing to Republicans and African Americans.*

"Everybody but the schools had been running high school sports, and though colleges had gotten serious about sports — the NCAA was established in 1906 — high schools didn't follow until some time later. But going into the 1920s, principals began saying, 'If we're going to run this world, let's make it educational.'" —*Joan S. Hult, emeritus professor and sports historian, in a Feb. 24 Education Week story about the unstructured nature of high school athletics in the early 20th century.*

Economic development and prosperity are "what the Chinese people want. They don't want a confrontation. They don't want to be stirred up about fighting for sovereignty. They want a better life. Give it to them." —*James Lilley, fellow of the Institute for Global Chinese Affairs, quoted in a March 10 Central News Agency (Taiwan) story about his views on relations between Taiwan and Mainland China.*

"Given that we don't have an exit strategy, I think it could become a problem for him, not so much as judgments of morality but because armies don't like to lose." —*David Segal, director of the Center for Research and Military Organization, in a March 26 Christian Science Monitor story about the potential effect of the Kosovo bombing campaign on President Bill Clinton's relations with the military establishment.*

"Ineffective study habits, commonly inculcated in both black and white students in most high schools, is the second major academic reason for the difficulties in college calculus classes. These 'study' habits often included little or no time spent on understanding the mathematics but too much time spent memorizing too many formulas and prescriptions for calculations and doing lots of rote computations." —*Jerome Dancis, associate professor of mathematics, in a March 17 letter to the Washington Post urging workshops to help new college students with math.*

Seeing the captured soldiers on Yugoslavian television "makes people feel uncomfortable. It makes them mad. It dampens their enthusiasm for the mission, but doesn't necessarily lead them to want to withdraw." —*Steven Kull, director of the Program for International Policy Attitudes in the Center for International and Security Studies, in an April 3 story in the South China Morning Post about the impact the capture of three soldiers might have on public support for the American effort in Yugoslavia. The soldiers have since been released.*

America Reads Celebrates Success at Maryland

Four hundred first- and second-grade students in Prince George's County are well on their way to mastering basic reading skills thanks, in large measure, to 70 University of Maryland student mentors in the America Reads Program.

Deputy Superintendent Louise Waynant joined University President Dan Mote in a special recognition reception on May 7 to celebrate the mentors' success in boosting literacy rates among elementary school children. The reception was held at the President's Residence.

According to Prince George's County School Board researchers, scores for first graders in letter recognition advanced 14 percent and the scores for second graders advanced six percent. In word recognition, first graders' scores showed an increase of 119 percent and second graders' scores increased nine percent.

Beyond the numbers, the mentors say the real success can be seen in the growing enthusiasm of the children. "Just recently, when a student read an entire book to me, she gave me a big hug because earlier this year she was barely able to read a sentence. It's that kind of progress that

makes tutoring so rewarding," says Crystal Bell, freshman, animal science major.

Bell and the other mentors spend between six and 20 hours each week to provide reading lessons and other educational activities for 400 first- and second-graders in eight elementary schools in Prince George's County.

The program has prompted several mentors, including Betsy Bratek, to change their majors to elementary education.

"The program has given me an outlet to discover that I wanted to be a teacher. As a mentor, I've learned that it does not take colorful magnetic letters or smelly markers to make the impact but just a simple book and an ear for them to read to," says Bratek.

America Reads Corps is a major initiative of the Clinton administration designed to ensure every child by the end of third grade will be able to read well and independently. The university was one of the first 20 charter universities to establish an America Reads program. There are now over 1,000 colleges and universities participating in the America Reads challenge.

KPMG, Alumni Give \$250,000 to Smith School

Through the generosity of alumni and a corporate foundation, the Robert H. Smith School of Business has added a new faculty position, the KPMG Professorship in Accounting. Alumni for the university and other University System of Maryland institutions now working at KPMG LLP have committed \$100,000 to establish the professorship. The KPMG Foundation has committed an additional \$150,000 to support the professorship endowment, for a total gift of \$250,000.

The KPMG gift is part of the Smith School's effort to raise \$30 million in endowment funds as part of Bold Vision • Bright Future: The Campaign for the University of Maryland, a \$350 million fund raising effort.

"We are proud and excited that our firm will be associated with the Smith School of Business in this way," says John Keenan, managing partner of KPMG's Baltimore office and a 1975 Smith School graduate. "We see this as a wonderful opportunity to help the Smith School strengthen its standing

among the nation's best business schools."

"This wonderful gift will enhance the prominence of our accounting faculty and of the school," says Howard Frank, Smith School dean. "We appreciate the generosity of our alumni and of KPMG."

The university's accounting faculty has achieved prominence in a number of areas. The faculty includes a member of the federal Cost Accounting Standards Board and the co-editors of the *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy*, a highly regarded publication in the accounting field. The accounting faculty, along with the finance faculty, is a select member of the prestigious Financial Economics and Accounting Research Consortium.

KPMG LLP is one of the world's largest professional services firms, operating in more than 840 cities in 155 countries. The global advisory firm offers a range of services, including accountancy, auditing, tax, management consultancy and corporate finance.

University Chosen to Work On Health Initiative

The University of Maryland is one of only five universities in the nation chosen to participate in a study designed to promote social norms for tobacco-free decision-making among its students.

According to Jody Gan, a health educator at the university, there is a Social Norming Theory that people would rather be "normal" than healthy. For many in this group, decisions and behaviors are based on what they perceive most of their peers are doing. Research shows, however, that most students have a false perception of what is actually occurring.

The study intends to use health promotion tools such as posters, advertising and other media to promote healthy decisions and behaviors regarding no tobacco use while at the same time letting students know what the true norms are on campus. Campaigns will begin in the fall of 1999.

"We are excited to be part of this project because it involves using positive messages rather than scare tactics," Gan says. "This type of social marketing is a great complement to the health education programs we currently offer as

part of the university's health services program."

The study is directed by The BACCHUS and GAMMA Peer Education Network and sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. The BACCHUS and GAMMA Peer Education Network is a national nonprofit health organization based in Denver and committed to promoting health education at colleges and universities throughout North America. The CDC has funded BACCHUS to look into health initiatives regarding sexual health as well as tobacco issues for students.

Approximately 500 students at each of the participating universities will be part of the study, which will survey and track respondents over a one-year period. Findings from the study will be released in summer 2000. Each university will receive the results from its campus community in order to plan continuous effective programming.

Other schools participating in the study are Gustavus Adolphus College, Osweg State University, University of North Carolina at Asheville and Texas Christian University.

Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the University of Maryland campus community. **William Destler**, Interim Vice President for University Advancement; **Teresa Flannery**, Executive Director of University Communications and Director of Marketing; **George Cathcart**, Executive Editor; **Londa Scott Forté**, Acting Editor; **Vaishali Honawar**, Graduate Assistant; **Phillip Wirtz**, Editorial Intern. Letters to the editor, story suggestions and campus information are welcome. Please submit all material two weeks before the Tuesday of publication. Send material to Editor, Outlook, 2101 Turner Hall, College Park, MD 20742. Telephone (301) 405-4629; e-mail outlook@accmail.umd.edu; fax (301) 314-9344. Outlook can be found online at www.inform.umd.edu/outlook/

Fighting Crime with Technology

Students Create New Police-Alert Security Device

A student team at the university has developed a system that, with the click of a button, may ease one of the big concerns on campuses nationwide: the fear of crime.

The team's new BEACON Emergency Locator System will enable students equipped with a key-chain-sized device to call police with the push of a button. The device will signal not only where the student is, but also his/her identity.

The undergraduate inventors of the just-completed system prototype say it is technically advanced, surpassing anything of its kind now available on the market. The current design blends new technology with an existing campus security system at the University of Maryland. However, the students say the system's technology is being refined so that it can be used on any college campus.

"The bottom-line is that we wanted the police to be able to tell who's in trouble and where they are," says senior electrical and computer engineering student Christian Rieser, who came up with the idea for the BEACON project in a technical writing class last year. "I wanted to create a device that could save lives. I knew that this system, if implemented, would not only deter crime and give people peace of mind, but it would bring distinction to the university because our community is actively seeking to solve a problem that every campus in the nation faces."

Once in place, the new system will work like this: when a student or other user triggers a locator device, a distress signal is sent to the nearest emergency phone box. The phone then automatically transmits a call to campus police,

passing on the user's unique identification information. This information is automatically matched with data in the police command center's database, telling the dispatcher the identity of the person who sent the distress signal, what that person looks like, and exactly which security phone was triggered. Help is then sent immediately. Security phones are spread across the College Park campus and are known as "blue light" phones because they are topped by a blue light that flashes when the



The BEACON team tested out several prototypes of the system on campus.

phone is activated.

Rieser says BEACON team members have tried to keep down the cost for the end user, students primarily, although university faculty and staff will have access to the BEACON system as well.

"We wanted to keep the total cost for the product under \$20," he says. "So we found ourselves having to use inexpensive, off-the-shelf equipment for rapid prototyping."

Team members hope that eventually, if the product is successful enough, it can be marketed by the university and made available to students at little or no cost.

The hope for the eventual commercial release of a BEACON product has led students to the idea of creating an

actual corporation within the campus environment. "The more we got into the project, the more we started to realize that it was a lot like running a business," says junior electrical engineering student Mehul Gandhi, project manager for BEACON. "After all, we were looking at taking what was basically a pure concept and seeing it through to the end product."

Next semester, BEACON team members plan to start a virtual corporation, bringing in additional students from areas such as business and government and politics to engage in the marketing and promotions facets of what, in essence, will be BEACON corporation.

But the main focus is on education. "The BEACON project provides an educational playground for people to learn, and to implement and test the things they get on paper in their classes," Rieser says. "Through this project we've all had the chance to see how our education is actually used by engineers. Plus, when you are working on something like this, students get really excited, and it motivates their learning even more."

"The ultimate culmination to my studies at Maryland," says electrical engineering senior Anne Pak, "has been to actually produce something as an engineer. The BEACON project has allowed me to do just that."

Having just completed the first prototype for the BEACON Emergency Locator System, the team is already planning for the system's next generation of technical development. Next fall, in addi-

tion to the new Virtual Corporation paradigm, BEACON team members plan to look at other location technologies to implement the actual product design. For example, the team will further examine the use of a system based on the global positioning system (GPS) or the use of wireless technologies to pinpoint the location of a BEACON user. The key to the feasibility of

using such technologies will be to continue to keep costs down, the team says.

The BEACON team <www.ece.umd.edu/Beacon> has taken a systems approach to product development, dividing the team members into several small focused groups, each with specialized responsibilities. These groups include the Transmitter Group, the Receiver Signal Processing Group, the Command Center Group, and the Campus Relations and Promotions Group. Team members are also working with many groups across campus to ensure the project meets the university's needs. Campus groups involved in the project include the University Police, the President's Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Security Committee, the Department of Physical Plant and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

The A. James Clark School of Engineering is providing \$20,000 in funding and the university's Engineering Research Center is providing laboratory space for the project through its Technology Advancement Program. Technical consultation is being provided by Motorola Corporation, Hewlett Packard and Texas Instruments.

"The bottom line is that we wanted the police to be able to tell who's in trouble and where they are."

—Christian Rieser,

creator of the BEACON project

Facilitating Good Teamwork: CQI Provides Organizational Training

continued from page 1

ed me about things I needed to remember," she says.

Sue Baughman, manager at McKeldin Library, was nominated to the training project by the library administration. "It was very good training," she says. "I definitely learned a good deal."

The workshop covered five days during which "we had to do homework," Flannery recalls with a laugh. "Readings, journals..." As part of the training, participants were paired and asked to observe each other's performance in facilitating a team/committee meeting.

This year's workshop also included panel discussions by facilitators, CQI team sponsors, leaders and members trained at the previous workshop.

Tom Ruggieri, coordinator of the Faculty and Staff Assistance Program, was attracted to the workshop because in his job he gets several calls to run retreats, and this turned out to be an "excellent" learning opportunity. Says Ruggieri, who has since facilitated a CQI project on parking for visitors at the university: "The CQI tools were very helpful in going through with this project," he says.

One of the best things about being part of this

workshop, Baughman says, was the chance to get to know people from all over campus. "All these people are a new network now, and can serve as a sounding board for each other. That is a big plus," she says.

Foxworth points out that she and the participants of the two workshops meet every month to get feedback from each other on team issues and challenges and to learn new skills. "Part of my goal is to create a learning community, an ongoing network where we can learn and grow."

For example, workshop members have also been introduced to Ellen Borkowski of Academic Information Technology Services to learn about teaching theaters and computer software that can help with team projects."

The next CQI workshop for facilitator training will likely be in June 2000, she says. "Another vision for the office is creating an internal peer consultant network. Facilitators will receive additional training in January 2000 on the consulting process on how to conduct a retreat."

To date, Foxworth, who consults actively across campus, has arranged over six campus consultations with facilitators trained last year.

For further information on the CQI facilitator train-

ing workshops and setting up teams for improvement at the university, contact Vicky Foxworth at 405-5249.

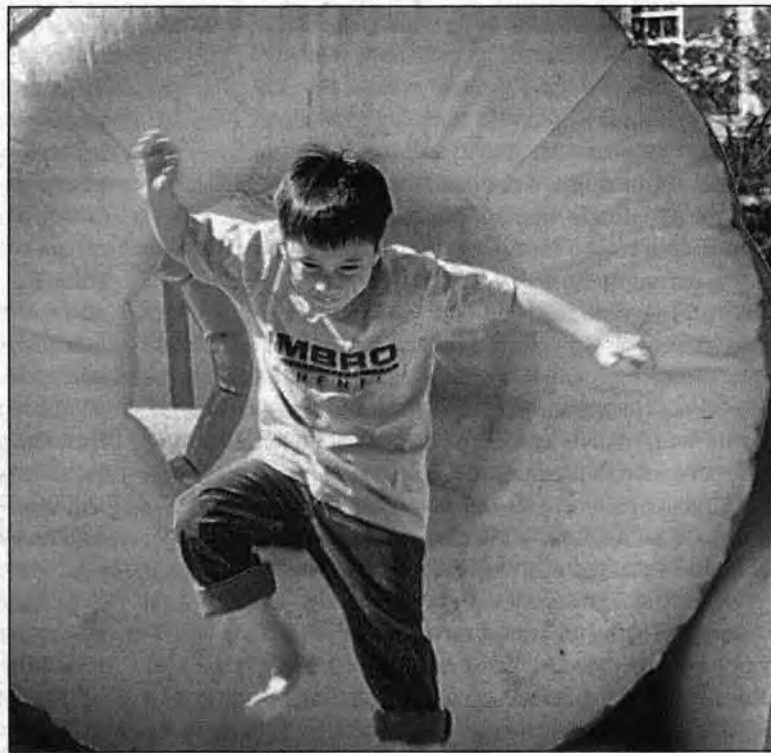
Role of a Team Facilitator:

- Works with team leader to establish meeting agenda
- Reflects on team process and proposes interventions to ensure high productivity and full participation
- As requested, provides feedback on team process and meeting effectiveness
- Coaches team on use of CQI tools and techniques
- Fulfills all duties of team member but remains neutral in team discussions
- Resolves team disputes
- Provides team dynamics improvements
- Provides more structure at beginning, less at end
- Assists team with data collection activities
- Keeps group focused on task

MARYLAND DAY 1999

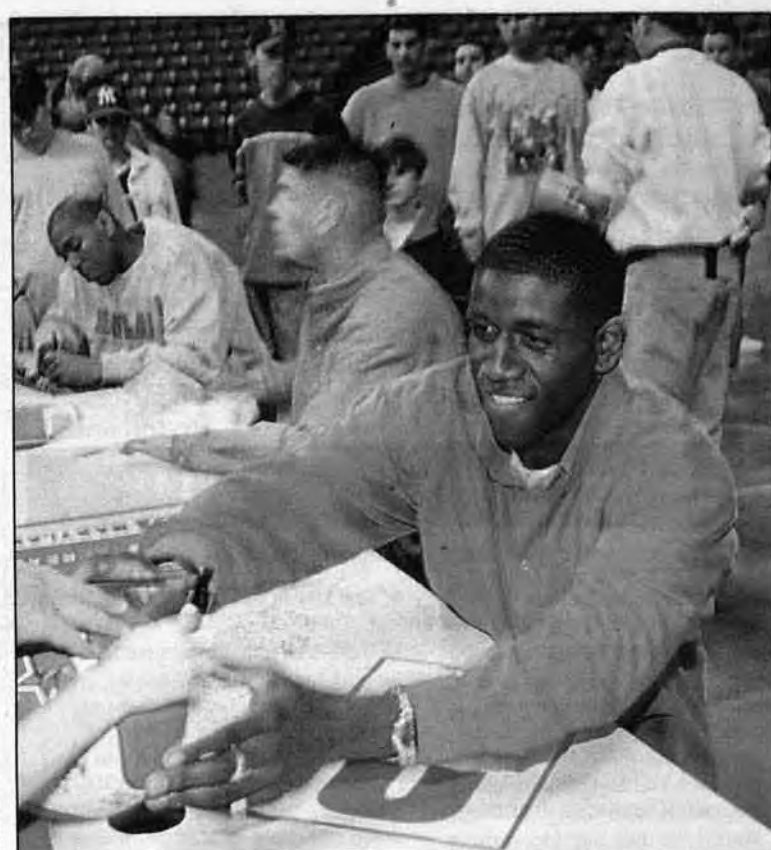
explore our world!

Approximately 20,000 people—including faculty, staff, students, community members and their families—attended the Maryland Day 1999: Explore Our World celebration which took place Saturday, April 24. Live musical and dance performances, an insect-petting zoo, puppet shows, campus tours, child safety seat checks, blood-pressure screening, an African marketplace, lectures on topical subjects, art exhibits, sporting events and an ice-cream social were among the more than 200 activities held that day. The open house was the last in a series of activities planned to celebrate the inauguration of University President Dan Mote.





Scott Suchman



Mike Morgan



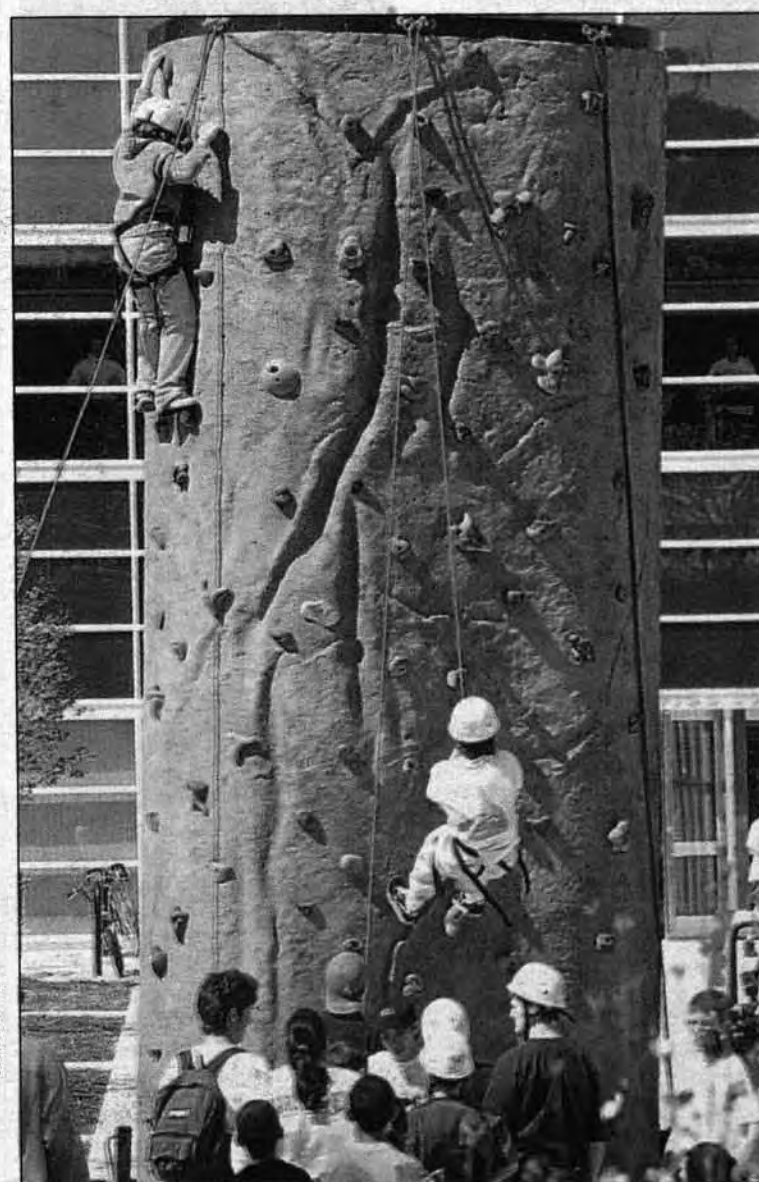
John Consoli



John Consoli



Scott Suchman



Scott Suchman

dateline maryland

Your Guide to University Events
May 11-18

May 11

2-3 p.m. aITs: Web Clinic.
4404 Computer & Space
Sciences Bldg. www.inform.umd.edu/WebClinics.

3-5 p.m. Committee on
Africa and the Americas: "Racial
Strategies in the Public Sphere." A
Research and Travel Grant panel
discussion. With Cedric Johnson,
Wendy Smooth, Judi Moore Latta
and moderator, Fancille Rusan
Wilson. 1104 Jimenez Hall. 5-
6835.

May 12

9 a.m.-noon. "Printing
Presumptions." This seminar con-
ducted at Printing Services gives
a comprehensive overview of the
process a job follows from
designer through mailing. A tour
of the printing plant is included.
This is an opportunity to learn
from the experts what terms like
"blue-line, film-stripping, plate-
making and Cheshire labels"
mean. 1122 Patapsco Bldg. 5-
9500.

4-5 p.m. Department of
Astronomy: "Cosmology from
Supernova," Bradley Schaefer, Yale
University. 2400 Computer &
Space Sciences Bldg.

May 13

7:30-8:45 p.m. Physics is
Phun. "Seeing the Light: Light,
Lenses, Mirrors and the Eye."
Halls open at 7 p.m. for hands-on
experiments, formal program
from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. 1410,
1412 Physics Bldg. 5-5994.

9 a.m.-noon. "Printing
Presumptions." This seminar con-
ducted at Printing Services gives
a comprehensive overview of
the process a job follows from
designer through mailing. A tour
of the printing plant is included.
This is an opportunity to learn
from the experts what terms like
"blue-line, film stripping, plate
making and Cheshire labels"
mean. 1122 Patapsco Bldg.
5-9500.

May 14

✓ Last Day of Classes for Spring Term

7:30-8:45 p.m. Physics is Phun:
"Seeing the Light: Light, Lenses,
Mirrors and the Eye." Hands-on exper-
iments at 7 p.m., formal program
from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. 1410, 1412
Physics Bldg. 5-5994.

8 p.m. School of Music: University
of Maryland Symphony Orchestra.
Conducted by Larry Rachleff. Music
of Mozart, Daugherty and Debussy.
Tawes Theater. 5-1150.

May 15

7:30-8:45 p.m. Physics is Phun:
"Seeing the Light: Light, Lenses,
Mirrors and the Eye." Hands-on exper-
iments at 7 p.m., formal program
from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. 1410, 1412
Physics Bldg. 5-5994.

May 18

11:30 a.m. Campus Black
Ministries: "Drum Majors of
Excellence" luncheon. Atrium, Stamp
Student Union. 4-7759.*

Calendar Guide

Calendar phone numbers listed as
4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the
prefix 314- or 405. Events are free
and open to the public unless
noted by an asterisk (*). Calendar
information for Outlook is com-
piled from a combination of
inform's calendars and submissions
to the Outlook office. To reach the
calendar editor, call 405-7615 or e-
mail outlook@accmail.umd.edu.



NOTABLE



U.S. Congressman Steny Hoyer (D-MD 5) presented the CFI's annual award for Fire Service Organization of the Year to MFRI Director Steven Edwards at the 11th Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner in Washington, D.C.

Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute Presented with Prestigious Fire Service Award

The Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI) was awarded the Congressional Fire Services Institute's 1999 Fire Service Organization of the Year Award on April 21. The award is given each year to an organization recognized for contributing to the CFSI effort to advance its fire and life safety mission on Capitol Hill. The award was presented at the 11th Annual National Fire and Emergency Service Dinner held in Washington, D.C. Maryland Congressman Steny Hoyer, co-chairman of the Congressional Fire Service Caucus, presented the award to MFRI Director Steven Edwards.

Architecture profes-
sor **Ralph Bennett** was
one of five professors
nationally recognized
with the Distinguished
Professor Award at the
annual meeting of the
Association of
Collegiate Schools of
Architecture.

"Professor Ralph
Bennett, AIA, has dis-
played a pattern of sig-
nificant support to stu-
dents following their
formal education at the University of
Maryland. Students attest to the guidance
and care provided by Professor Bennett
both as students and during the time fol-
lowing their education. He counsels them,
guides them toward graduate school or pro-



Ralph Bennett

fessional options and, at times, hires them at
his private firm Bennett Frank McCarthy.
He has also provided start-up space for for-
mer students to begin businesses that are
recognized nationwide," says the ACSA
Newsletter.

Kimthi Bui, a Montgomery County staff
member of the College of Agriculture &
Natural Resources' Maryland Cooperative
Extension, was one of four individuals
nationwide honored on April 14 in
Washington, DC, by USDA Secretary Dan
Glickman. Bui and the other honorees
were recognized for their outstanding con-
tributions as nutrition assistants with the
Expanded Food and Nutrition Education
Program (EFNEP). A 30-year partnership
involving USDA and land-grant universities,
EFNEP is designed to help limited-income
Americans acquire the knowledge, skills,
attitudes, and behavior changes neces-
sary to maintain nutritionally sound
diets and enhance personal develop-
ment.

In Maryland, EFNEP is organized
and operated by Maryland
Cooperative Extension. Last year fac-
ulty-trained paraprofessionals, like Bui,
taught 3,363 families plus 10,613 addi-
tional young people how to make
more nutritious food choices, manage
food budgets wisely, practice proper
food safety sanitation and storage
methods, and reduce their risk of diet-
related chronic diseases.

Bui was a lawyer in Vietnam before immi-
grating to the United States in 1975. Fluent
in Vietnamese, French and English, she
chose to work with EFNEP because, she
says, "I can help Asian people more through
EFNEP than as a lawyer."

Suheil Bushrui's Insight on Diversity Through the Eyes of Kahlil Gibran

After 44 years of scholarly research dedicated to studying Kahlil Gibran's life, and writing and editing many books about him, Suheil Bushrui wrote "Kahlil Gibran: Man and Poet" (1998) with Joe Jenkins.

The book has received rave reviews in the British, American, and Arab press. According to *The New York Times Book Review*, "[This book] breaks new ground, falling into the category that lies somewhere between hagiography and history... the authors add substantial texture to previous descriptions of Gibran's social and work habits..."

Bushrui says this is the first scholarly and critical analysis of Gibran's work and the first time it has been placed in the Anglo-American literary tradition; it is also a reappraisal of the value of Gibran's Arabic works within the Arabic literary tradition.

This study is long overdue because Gibran has been very influential and widely read in the United States and abroad. "The Prophet," Gibran's masterpiece, has sold more than five million copies and has been translated into over 30 languages.

In addition to his latest book, Bushrui and Miles Bradbury of the history department are currently teaching at Maryland the "first course ever taught in America" on Gibran. The course, "Kahlil Gibran and the Immigrant Traditions in America: The Reconciliation of Cultures," is cross-listed as both Honors 289D and HIST 219Q.

Bushrui's inspiration for both the book and the class came from his fascination in Gibran. "I became fascinated with Gibran's work at an early age and I feel an affinity with him since we had similar experiences," says Bushrui.

Bushrui was born in the former country of Palestine and spent many years living in Lebanon (Gibran's birthplace). He later lived and taught in countries such as Africa, Canada, and Britain and traveled extensively throughout Europe before moving to the United States in 1986 with his wife.

"The remarkable thing about Gibran is that he was able to reconcile disparate cultures. He came at the age of 12 and accepted Western culture without relinquishing his own values. By marrying one culture to another and accepting both on their own terms, deriving from each his own

strength, he [Gibran] was able in the process to produce a gospel of love and reconciliation," says Bushrui.

That gospel is illustrated in both his philosophy and his work, culminating in "The Prophet." "This book was neither of the east nor the west, it belonged to humanity at large... it is extremely popular in both the east and the west," says Bushrui. "It is remarkable Gibran was able to connect these two worlds and create his own."

The message of unity and diversity is Gibran's most important message for humanity. His concept of diversity summarizes this message of culture, universalism, and reconciliation, and is illustrated in the following statement from Gibran's "Secrets of the Heart":

"All things in this creation exist within you, and all things in you exist in creation; there is no border between you and the closest things, and there is no distance between you and the farthest things, and all things, from the lowest to the loftiest, from the smallest to the greatest are within you as equal things. In one atom are found all of the elements of the earth; in one motion of the mind are found the motions of all the laws of existence; in one drop of water are found the secrets of all the endless oceans; in one aspect of you are found all the aspects of existence."

Says Bushrui: "This vision of the world emphasizes our interconnectedness. It tends to 'contradict' the beliefs held by the ordinary man in the street who believes that the distinctions he makes between black and white, male and female, Arab and Jew, Christian and Muslim, capitalist and communist refer to mutually exclusive objective realities. We're all one in our humanity."

Since Gibran was one of the earliest poets of modern times to discuss profound issues, such as women's rights and human rights, Bushrui named him the "poet of ecology of life." In fact, Bushrui believes Gibran anticipated the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Gibran also focused on the life of new immigrants in his poetry which relates to diversity and living a new identity, "the basic identity—human identity."

At the university, Bushrui assisted the Office of Human Relations Programs (OHRP) when it crafted the purpose and mission of the Diversity

Initiative. His contribution was valuable because of his vast and varied life experiences: his studies of Gibran's life and works, his academic experience (which focused on comparative literature), his practical experience as cultural advisor to the president of Lebanon, and his current positions at the university as a professor, the Baha'i Chair for World Peace, and director of the University of Maryland's Kahlil Gibran Research and Studies Project.

The Diversity Initiative, through its programming philosophy and implementation, strives to "explore and enhance values that emphasize interconnectedness, equity, justice, and the sanctity of each individual's dignity," says Gloria Bouis, associate director of OHRP. "We, in the Initiative, try to raise the awareness of the campus to understand diversity as an individual, global and human right," adds Bouis.

"Diversity is more than a question of human relationships. It is a state of mind and an attitude. You cannot transform human beings except through a profound change in the vision with which they see the world - there should develop within each one of us a unity of vision and ethic."

According to Bushrui, the Diversity Initiative can be summarized in the phrase "unity in diversity." "The Diversity Initiative strives to create an atmosphere in which students of different backgrounds, cultures and ways of life learn to communicate and interact with a spirit of understanding and respect, honoring the humanity of each member of the group," says Bushrui. "To accomplish this one must believe it and act it."

Gibran recognized the nobility and greatness of human beings. He believed one's identity as a "human identity"—was very important. Therefore, if people recognize their nobility they also recognize that human beings have certain responsibilities.

According to Bushrui, one of the basic aspects of a diversity program should be to help people develop a sense of responsibility, which is one of the many goals of the university's Diversity Initiative.

Gibran's contribution to the world lives through his words. "He is alive through the power of his word; he can never die because the power of the word never dies," says Bushrui. According to the poet Horace

Will it Rain Today?

continued from page 1

"We also will be supplying National Weather Service forecasters at Sterling, Va., with high-resolution data that has better time and location resolution. And we'll be helping the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/National Ocean Service to better predict the surface winds, water level and water waves over the Chesapeake Bay and coastal regions," he says.

"This project is another fine example of how university research enhances the well-being of the citizens of our state and region" says University President Dan Mote. "We look forward to seeing our essential role in fostering the welfare of the state and region grow even more vibrant in the years ahead."

The weather prediction model developed by the university's department of meteorology for its real-time weather forecasts is a modified version of a model developed by Penn State and the National Center for Atmospheric Research. The University of Maryland's model uses a set of partial differential equations describing atmospheric motion, and a complicated package of sophisticated cloud micro-physics, boundary-layer processes and earth surface conditions. According to Zhang, Maryland's model can provide forecasts that "telescope from a coarse to a finer resolution." This allows weather predictions that cover either a broad area (the eastern two-thirds of the United States and portions of the western Atlantic), an intermediate area (the Mid-Atlantic states) or a localized area (the Washington-Baltimore metropolitan region). Predictions for the intermediate area can be determined to within about 12 km (7.5 miles) and local area predictions can be pinpointed to within some 4 km (2.5 miles). The most accurate forecasts now available are from the National Weather Service and can be resolved only to about 29 km (18 miles).

Developing and providing

real-time forecasts are part of the meteorology department's academic research as well as its efforts to serve the state of Maryland and nearby communities. The use of the models will help departmental researchers' efforts to better understand the physical processes that are at work in different weather systems found from the Atlantic coastal regions to the mountains. The forecasts are also part of the department's ongoing effort to assist the state of Maryland and nearby communities through improved prediction of regional weather, and through increased understanding of regional air quality and of the role of atmospheric conditions in the transport and deposition of pollutants from one area to another. For example, the new forecasting models will help departmental researchers estimate atmospheric transport of photochemical smog, acid deposition and haze as well as the flux of nitrogen and other pollutants to the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed.

Through its Regional Atmospheric Modeling, Measurement and Prediction Program (RAMMPP), the department has made considerable effort in recent years to examine summertime conditions leading to the photochemical smog (ground level ozone) episodes that trigger air quality alerts. Through this research, the department is helping Maryland, Washington, D.C. and Virginia with their efforts to better comply with the Clean Air Act. Weather models from the new real-time forecasting project will be used as input into an ozone prediction model that is being developed to forecast what are known as "ozone action days" when the air quality index will be in the red.

Amateur meteorologists and others interested in getting the department's real-time forecasts and up-to-the-minute local and regional weather conditions can visit the department of meteorology's weather web pages at www.meto.umd.edu/weather.html.

(as quoted by Bushrui) the poet's work is "a monument that shall outlast both brass and stone." Indeed, Gibran's poetry will outlast both brass

and stone; Bushrui will make sure of that.

—JAMIE FEEHERY-SIMMONS

Not Your Typical Crafts and Campfires

Center Provides Kids with Opportunities to Learn About Art, Plus Contemporary Issues

The Art & Learning Center is tackling some tougher issues as part of its summer programming. This year, a new summer camp session will help teenage women learn about confusing images in the media and how to fight back with images of their own.

"Exploring Female Creativity" is just one of nine summer camp sessions, which run June 21 to Aug. 13, offered by the Art & Learning Center.

The center's summer programs are in their tenth year and offer art experiences for children and teenagers through visual, performing and literary arts. Director Barbara Tyroler and assistant director Heather Kelley head the camp.

"Exploring Female Creativity" combines elements of cooking and photography. Kelley, a graduate student who leads the session, teaches women's studies courses during the school year and wanted to combine two things that were of interest to her.

"It's basically combining my life," Kelley says. "I really think there's a place to combine the two...I'll be working at a teenage level talking to these women."

During the session, girls aged 13 to 16 will learn about nutritional misunderstandings that come with dieting the "cult of thinness." For two Saturdays, Kelley will cook with the girls while concurrently teaching them about the importance of exercise and the dangers of concepts like "yo-yo dieting."

Participants in this session will look through advertise-

ments in magazines and how each one portrays women. Eventually the young women will redesign ads so they become "girl-friendly." This involves the teenagers using one another to take photographs, developing the photos and eventually

ly redesigning the ads considering the social and visual aspects they discuss. They will also analyze competing messages in editorials and television programs.

The two-day session takes many of its ideas from another summer session titled "A Path of Her Own." This five-day experience brings in a psychologist and art educator—who are sisters—to lead the young women.



Each summer the Art & Learning Center provides a variety of day camps for boys and girls of all ages.

Also new this summer is "Theatre Arts Lab" which helps campers explore the creativity, process and ensemble required for theater arts. Tyroler points to the importance of this session because it is the only one currently offered for young men over the age of 12. This is important for those teenagers who have participated in the past and wish to continue as campers. The leadership tracks for females allow them to participate up to age 16.

The Art & Learning Center created its summer camps a decade ago when funding for arts was reduced in the public schools. In the beginning, parents helped support and teach the camp. Today, the center hires teachers, artists and assistants, all mainly from the Washington D.C. area.

"It's really clustered around the university group but we also scatter out into the community," Tyroler says.

The price of camp is reduced for children of university faculty and staff. Tyroler

Summer Camp Schedule

- Session 1: "Multimedia Arts," June 21-25 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Ages 8-11. \$200 (\$250).
- Session 2: "Exploring Female Creativity," June 19 and 26 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Ages 13-16. \$75 (\$90).
- Session 3: "Africa, Rhythm, and Pattern," June 28-July 2 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Ages 8-12. \$210 (\$260).
- Session 4: "Theatre Arts Lab," July 5-16 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Grades 7-12. \$400 (\$500).
- Session 5: "Clay, Art, and Photography," July 12-23 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Ages 8-12. \$420 (\$520).
- Session 6: "A Path of Her Own," July 26-30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ages 13-15. \$200 (\$250).
- Session 7: "Learning from the Masters," July 26-30 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Ages 8-12. \$200 (\$250).
- Session 8a: "Hands on Art History," Aug. 2-6 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Ages 8-12. \$100 (\$125).
- Session 8b: "World of Music Revisited," Aug. 2-6 from 1-5 p.m. Ages 8-12. \$100 (\$125).
- Session 9: "Fine Arts Fun," Aug. 9-13 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Ages 8-12. \$210 (\$260).

*Tuition for non-university participants in parenthesis

hopes that in the future, the center can reduce its tuition even more as it receives grants from outside sources. The Maryland State Arts Council as well as the Prince George's County Arts Council currently support the center by aiding

with supplies.

Many sessions are still open but most fill to capacity by the end of May. For more information, call 314-2787 or visit <www.inform.umd.edu/artcenter>.

—PHILLIP WIRTZ

for your interest

events • lectures • seminars • awards • etc.

Library Announces New Electronic Resources

In the past few weeks University Libraries has added subscriptions to two significant new electronic resources—*Science Online* and *Journal Citation Reports* on the Web. The periodicals can be found at <www.lib.umd.edu/UMCP> under

Electronic Resources.

Science Online, from the American Association for the Advancement of Science, is available via the e-journals link on the home page. Every upcoming issue of *Science* is published online. You can search by issue, by keyword and author. you can also browse by subject and look at

back issues. Breaking news of a research or science policy nature is published daily. Information on career, grants and products are among the many enhanced features.

Journal Citation Reports (JCR) on the Web provides access to citation data that helps users evaluate and compare scholarly journals in the sciences and social sciences. Coverage is interdisciplinary and incorporates journals from over 3000 publishers in 60 countries.

Drum Majors of Excellence

The Campus Black Ministries will hold its Annual Drum Majors of Excellence

Luncheon on May 18 at 11 a.m. in the Stamp Student Union Atrium. The emcee for the afternoon will be Marie Davidson and Mary Cothran, Rev. Susan Astarita and Harry Teabout will be honored.

Tickets for the luncheon are \$20. For more information or tickets, contact Anne Carswell at 314-7759 or Yvette Nickerson at 405-9005.

Telecommunications Training

Instructional Television System (ITS) will present a training seminar, "Introduction to High Speed Networks," on May 13-14, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The class takes place in the

ITV Building and participants will discuss the protocols, standards and advantages associated with high-speed network technologies like Ethernet LAN Switching Methods, ISDN, X.25, Frame Relay, FDDI and FDDI-II, DQDB, SMDS, ATM and Residential Broadband Access technologies.

The cost of the program is \$345 per person for faculty and staff. For a full course description and a registration form please contact ITV Professional Development Assistants at 405-4913.